

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT

In a connecting device for connecting a first extruded hollow profile (10), having a profile channel and at least one undercut groove space on a longitudinal groove (20), to another such workpiece by ~~way of~~ a screw element or other member which passes through an opening (20) in the workpiece and can be inserted into the interior (22) of the other workpiece, there is fixed to the end face (14) of the hollow profile (10) a strip-like socket profile (34) which runs radially with respect to the profile channel (12) and has at least at one end a stepped face (35) for receiving the screw element, which screw element in the rest position lies inside the side contours of the socket profile (34) and in the connecting position projects beyond the socket profile at least on one side and engages in a retaining manner in the undercut space of the other hollow profile (10). ~~The socket profile (34) has a baseplate (36) on a head strip (38) which is of shorter length in longitudinal section than the length of the baseplate, and part of the latter projects beyond the end face(s) of the head strip (38) to form an upper or stepped face (35).~~

Fig. 2